may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-69164/DJB/DAV/JJD).

Please enter the amendments below and consider the remarks that follow. Note: the claim amendments are present with the assumption that the amendments mailed October 12, 1999 have been entered per the instructions of the CPA filed April 10, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

23. (Twice Amended) A mutant host cell comprising a metabolic pathway which uses PEP as a precursor or intermediate of metabolism, said host cell characterized by:

(a) being phenotypically Pts-/glu+;

(b) requiring galactose permease activity to transport glucose; and

(c) having a specific growth rate on glucose as a sole carbon source of at least [about] $0.4h^{-1}$.

27. (Twice Amended) A method for increasing PEP availability into a biosynthetic or metabolic pathway of a host cell, the method comprising:

culturing a host cell mutant characterized by:

having a Pts-/glu+ phenotype;

requiring galactose permease activity to transport glucose; and

having a specific growth rate on glucose as a sole carbon source of at least [about] $0.4h^{-1}$;

in the presence of an appropriate carbon source, wherein said host cell mutant utilizes PEP as a precursor or intermediate of metabolism.

38. (Twice Amended) A method for obtaining a Pts-/glucose+, galactose permease requiring-mutant cell, the method comprising:

(a) selecting a host cell which utilizes a phosphotransferase transport system;

(b) mutating the host cell whereby the phosphotransferase transport system is inactivated;

(c) culturing the mutant host cell using glucose as a carbon source; and

(d) selecting a mutant host cell which grows on glucose at a specific growth rate of at least [about] 0.4 h^{-1}.

42. A method for enhancing production of a desired compound in a modified host cell, said host cell in its unmodified form being capable of utilizing a phosphotransferase transport system for carbohydrate transport, the method comprising,

(a) culturing a modified host cell with an appropriate carbon source, said modified host cell characterized by having:

(i) a Pts-/glu+ phenotype;

(ii) requiring galactose permease activity to transport glucose;

(iii) [having] a specific growth rate on glucose as a sole carbon source of at least [about] 0.4h^{-1}; and

(iv) utilizing PEP as a precursor or intermediate of metabolism,

said modified host cell further comprising recombinant DNA encoding one or more enzyme(s) catalyzing reactions in the pathway of biosynthetic production of said desired compound in said modified host cell; and

(b) optionally recovering said compound.

REMARKS

Claims 23-46 are now pending. A list of the pending claims is provided in an appendix for the Examiner's convenience.